

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A facsimile apparatus comprising:

an input unit that inputs an identifier of a repeater and a plurality of sub-addresses of receiver terminals in association with the identifier; and

a controller, upon receiving a multicast instruction, that performs call processing for the repeater based upon the identifier and transmits the plurality of sub-addresses to the repeater, together with image information in a single communication transaction.

2. The facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the input unit further inputs a plurality of identifiers of repeaters, each of the plurality of identifiers being associated with at least one of the plurality of sub-addresses, and

wherein, when the plurality of identifiers of repeaters are input, the controller groups the plurality of sub-addresses input from the input unit by the repeaters based upon the identifiers and transmits each of the grouped sub-addresses to each of the repeaters.

3. The facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the input unit includes a plurality of one-touch buttons with which an identifier of a repeater and a sub-address of a receiver terminal can be input in one operation, and

wherein the controller obtains the plurality of identifiers of the repeaters and the plurality of sub-addresses of the receiver terminals in accordance with pressed one-touch buttons, and groups the plurality of sub-addresses of the receiver terminals in association with each of the repeaters.

4. The facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of sub-addresses input from the input unit are transmitted to the repeater

by a NSS.

5. The facsimile apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the identifier is a telephone number of the repeater.

6. A repeater comprising:

a receiving section that receives a plurality of sub-addresses of receiver terminals from a telephone line, together with image information requested to be relayed in a single communication transaction;

a memory section that stores sub-addresses of receiver terminals and TCP/IP addresses of the receiver terminals in association with each other; and

a controller that, when the plurality of sub-addresses of receiver terminals are received together with the image information, obtains a TCP/IP address corresponding to each of the received sub-addresses of receiver terminals by referring to the memory section, and transmits the image information to a receiver terminal corresponding to the obtained TCP/IP address by an e-mail.

7. A repeater comprising:

a receiving section that receives a plurality of sub-addresses of receiver terminals from a telephone line, together with image information requested to be relayed in a single communication transaction;

a memory section that stores sub-addresses of receiver terminals and e-mail addresses of the receiver terminals in association with each other; and

a controller that, when the plurality of sub-addresses of receiver terminals are received together with the image information, obtains an e-mail address corresponding to each of the received sub-addresses of receiver terminals by referring to the memory section, and transmits the image information by an e-mail

including the obtained e-mail address in an addressee field to a mail server.

8. A communication method of a facsimile apparatus comprising:  
inputting a plurality of sub-addresses of receiver terminals;  
calling a repeater when a multicasting instruction is given; and  
transmitting the plurality of input sub-addresses of receiver terminals to the repeater in a single communication transaction, together with image information.

9. The communication method of the facsimile apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

inputting a plurality of telephone numbers of repeaters, each of the plurality of telephone numbers being associated with at least one of the plurality of sub-addresses; and

grouping the plurality of input sub-addresses of receiver terminals by the repeaters in accordance with the plurality of telephone numbers,

wherein the calling calls each of the repeaters based upon the plurality of telephone numbers, and

the transmitting transmits each of the grouped sub-addresses to each of the repeaters.

10. A facsimile apparatus comprising:  
a plurality of one-touch buttons, each designating a telephone number of a repeater and a sub-address of a receiver terminal;

a controller, when at least two of the one-touch buttons are pressed, that groups sub-addresses corresponding to the pressed one-touch buttons with repeaters based upon telephone numbers corresponding to the pressed one-touch

buttons;

a transmitter that transmits each of the grouped sub-addresses to each of the repeaters in one communication transaction.